

Message

From: Kenknight, Jeff [Kenknight.Jeff@epa.gov]
Sent: 6/3/2020 6:48:27 PM
To: Davies, Lauris [Davies.Lauris@epa.gov]
CC: Kowalski, Edward [Kowalski.Edward@epa.gov]; Martinson, Mathew [martinson.mathew@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: Lower Umatilla Basin in Oregon
Attachments: Armenia Growers Coalition signed MOU.pdf; LUBGWMA Briefing for OW Leadership_20May2020_Final.docx; 2020.01.16 FINAL Petition for Emergency Action Pursuant to the Safe Drinking Water Act.pdf

Lauris I set up a short discussion with you at the end of the day to discuss this late breaking interest by OECA management.

From: King, Carol <King.Carol@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 03, 2020 11:33 AM
To: Contreras, Peter <Contreras.Peter@epa.gov>; Kenknight, Jeff <Kenknight.Jeff@epa.gov>; Martinson, Mathew <martinson.mathew@epa.gov>; Thurmon, Clarke <Thurmon.Clarke@epa.gov>; Steiner-Riley, Cara <Steiner-Riley.Cara@epa.gov>
Cc: Rausch, Heidi <Rausch.Heidi@epa.gov>; Wilson, Dane <Wilson.Dane@epa.gov>; Baptista, Chrisna <Baptista.Chrisna@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Lower Umatilla Basin in Oregon

FYI.

From: King, Carol
Sent: Wednesday, June 03, 2020 2:29 PM
To: Bodine, Susan <bodine.susan@epa.gov>; Starfield, Lawrence <Starfield.Lawrence@epa.gov>
Cc: Kelley, Rosemarie <Kelley.Rosemarie@epa.gov>; Koslow, Karin <Koslow.Karin@epa.gov>; Denton, Loren <Denton.Loren@epa.gov>; Pollins, Mark <Pollins.Mark@epa.gov>; Theis, Joseph <Theis.Joseph@epa.gov>; Wilson, Dane <Wilson.Dane@epa.gov>; Rausch, Heidi <Rausch.Heidi@epa.gov>; Buterbaugh, Kristin <Buterbaugh.Kristin@epa.gov>; Shiffman, Cari <Shiffman.Cari@epa.gov>; Branning, Hannah <Branning.Hannah@epa.gov>; Loving, Shanita <Loving.Shanita@epa.gov>; Baptista, Chrisna <Baptista.Chrisna@epa.gov>
Subject: Lower Umatilla Basin in Oregon

Susan and Larry,

Region 10 is still assessing information in the Lower Umatilla Basin matter and has not made any decisions yet about how to respond to the January 2020 SDWA section 1431 petition. As Region 10 said during the May 28 OCE Weekly, the roughly 1,500-page petition in the Lower Umatilla case is voluminous and has taken time to assess. When the Region moves to the next step of developing potential responses for management's review, our understanding is that all options will be on the table, including a memorandum of understanding with the dairies and growers. WED has shared the Region 5 Armenia Growers Coalition MOU with Region 10 as an example of how EPA could respond to this petition.

While there are some similarities with the Armenia Growers situation, there are also significant differences. During tomorrow's informational briefing for Headquarters, Region 10 plans to explain further how several state agencies in Oregon have been working over the past three decades to address the regional groundwater contamination since it was first identified back in the early 1990s. As you know, the Armenia Growers matter

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For ease of reference, I've attached several documents to this email so you have them in one place – the 1431 petition in the Lower Umatilla matter, the briefing paper Region 10 prepared for tomorrow and the final Armenia Growers MOU from Region 5.

We will provide you with more detailed updates as Region 10 gathers additional information and continues discussions with Oregon.

Thanks,
Carol

Carol DeMarco King, Attorney-Advisor
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From: Bodine, Susan <bodine.susan@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, June 01, 2020 10:53 AM
To: King, Carol <King.Carol@epa.gov>; Starfield, Lawrence <Starfield.Lawrence@epa.gov>
Cc: Kelley, Rosemarie <Kelley.Rosemarie@epa.gov>; Koslow, Karin <Koslow.Karin@epa.gov>; Denton, Loren <Denton.Loren@epa.gov>; Pollins, Mark <Pollins.Mark@epa.gov>; Theis, Joseph <Theis.Joseph@epa.gov>; Wilson, Dane <Wilson.Dane@epa.gov>; Rausch, Heidi <Rausch.Heidi@epa.gov>; Buterbaugh, Kristin <Buterbaugh.Kristin@epa.gov>; Shiffman, Cari <Shiffman.Cari@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Awareness Briefing for Dave Ross on the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area

The draft letter reads like an inexorable drive towards a 1431. That is not the approach that R5 took in Wisconsin with the Armenia Growers.

From: King, Carol <King.Carol@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 9:01 AM
To: Bodine, Susan <bodine.susan@epa.gov>; Starfield, Lawrence <Starfield.Lawrence@epa.gov>
Cc: Kelley, Rosemarie <Kelley.Rosemarie@epa.gov>; Koslow, Karin <Koslow.Karin@epa.gov>; Denton, Loren <Denton.Loren@epa.gov>; Pollins, Mark <Pollins.Mark@epa.gov>; Theis, Joseph <Theis.Joseph@epa.gov>; Wilson, Dane <Wilson.Dane@epa.gov>; Rausch, Heidi <Rausch.Heidi@epa.gov>; Buterbaugh, Kristin <Buterbaugh.Kristin@epa.gov>;

Shiffman, Cari <Shiffman.Cari@epa.gov>

Subject: FW: Awareness Briefing for Dave Ross on the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area

Susan and Larry,

As discussed during the May 28 OCE Weekly, OW leadership has requested an informational briefing in the Lower Umatilla matter. The briefing is currently scheduled for Thursday, June 4 at 2:30 pm EST. (Separately, we'll forward you the invite that WED received for the 4th.) As noted below, Region 10 prepared the attached briefing paper for next week's meeting.

Additionally, attached is the latest draft of the letter to the Oregon state agencies, asking for additional information. The proposed letter to ODA, OHA and ODEQ includes WED's feedback on an earlier version that the Region sent us in April. After finishing its initial assessment of the January petition and having a series of informal calls with the state agencies by March, Region 10 proposed sending a letter to the Oregon agencies in an effort to help fill in some gaps in understanding, especially related to the private wells in the area.

Over the past few months, WED has joined multiple discussions with Region 10 ECAD, WDD, ORC, OGC and OGWDW. We've offered technical and legal assistance as the Region did a deep dive into all of the information. We continue to monitor the matter. Please let us know if we can provide any additional information.

Thanks,
Carol

Carol DeMarco King, Attorney-Advisor
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From: Martinson, Mathew <martinson.mathew@epa.gov>

Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 1:57 PM

To: Kenknight, Jeff <Kenknight.Jeff@epa.gov>; King, Carol <King.Carol@epa.gov>; Contreras, Peter <Contreras.Peter@epa.gov>

Cc: Pollins, Mark <Pollins.Mark@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Awareness Briefing for Dave Ross on the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area

These are the documents sent to OW Leadership via the established briefing process. The 2nd document is the briefing paper. The LUBGWMA briefing has been collaboratively developed within R10, and the RA reviewed it before it was sent. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Mat

Mathew J. Martinson, P.E., BCEE

CAPT, USPHS

Chief, Permitting, Drinking Water and Infrastructure Branch

U.S. EPA, Region 10

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Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP) (Cell)